



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: November 16, 2012

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Mark D. Ahrendsen, Transportation Director
H. Wesley Parham, Assistant Transportation Director

Subject: North Carolina Railroad (NCRR) Traffic Separation Study (TSS) Update Presentation

Summary

The Durham Traffic Separation Study (TSS) is a joint study underway between the N. C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT), the City of Durham, Triangle Transit (TTA) and Norfolk Southern Railroad. The study is examining 18 at-grade railroad crossings in Durham to identify needs for new or upgraded crossing safety equipment, new roadway overpasses or underpasses, or closing railroad crossings.

Over the past year NCDOT held stakeholder and public meetings to get input about each existing crossing, crossing safety, and suggestions for crossing improvements. Each crossing was then evaluated for short term and long term crossing improvements. Short-term and long-term improvements in the downtown focus area were presented to stakeholders in April 2012, including a recommendation for the future grade separation of the Blackwell St. and Magnum St. crossings. Improvements have now been identified for the remaining crossings and will be presented at a stakeholder meeting on January 15, 2013. Public meetings will then follow in February/March 2013. An additional stakeholder meeting will be held to discuss public comments for the development of final recommendations and presentation to the City Council in August 2013.

As part of the community engagement process, the N. C. Department of Transportation will provide a brief study update at the City Council Work Session. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Recommendation

The City Department of Transportation recommends that the City Council receive an update from the N. C. Department of Transportation on the status of the Durham Traffic Separation Study and the community engagement process.

Attachment